

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00
ACDA-12 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00
NASA-01 NSC-05 ERDA-05 SS-15 OES-07 /127 W
-----029273 182110Z /66

R 180040Z NOV 77

FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7615
INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 4782

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: TSPA, UN, CO
SUBJ: OUTER SPACE COMMITTEE ENLARGEMENT

REFS: (A) USUN 4537; (B) USUN 4657

1. AMB. LEONARD SAW COLOMBIAN PERMREP ZEA 16 NOVEMBER TO CONVEY US OPPOSITION TO COLOMBIAN PROPOSAL TO ENLARGE THE OUTER SPACE COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP FROM 37 TO 47. ZEA WAS NOT RESPONSIVE. IN ANSWER TO HIS REQUEST THAT US VIEWS BE REDUCED TO WRITING, USUN DELIVERED A NOTE ON 17 NOVEMBER, TEXT OF WHICH FOLLOWS AT END THIS TEL.

2. WE HAVE PROMPTED AUSTRIA (OUTER SPACE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN) TO CALL INFORMAL MEETING OF OSC DELEGATIONS IN ORDER TO TRY TO BUILD OPPOSITION TO ENLARGEMENT EFFORT. OUR CONTACTS THUS FAR INDICATE THAT CHILE AND MEXICO WILL SUPPORT COLOMBIA, USSR WILL OPPOSE.

3. FOR BOGOTA: WE ARE REPEATING REFTELS TO YOU.

4. QTE: THE ACTING PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA HAS THE HONOR TO COMMUNICATE TO THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF COLOMBIA OUR VIEWS ON THE PROPOSAL BY

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THE DELEGATION OF COLOMBIA TO ENLARGE THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE PEACEFUL USES OF OUTER SPACE FROM 37 TO 47 MEMBERS.

THE UNITED STATES IS CONCERNED THAT THE FURTHER ENLARGEMENT OF THE OUTER SPACE COMMITTEE COULD ADVERSELY AFFECT THE WORK OF THIS COMMITTEE. IT WILL BE RECALLED THAT THE COMMITTEE

HAS MOST RECENTLY BEEN ENLARGED IN 1973 WITH THE ADDITION OF NINE MEMBERS, SEVEN OF WHOM ARE LOCATED IN THE SOUTHERN HEMISPHERE. THE UNITED STATES BELIEVES THE PRESENT MEMBERSHIP PROVIDES THE OPPORTUNITY FOR NATIONS FROM ALL REGIONS OF THE WORLD TO BE REPRESENTED AND TO PARTICIPATE IN THE WORK OF THE OUTER SPACE COMMITTEE.

THE OUTER SPACE COMMITTEE HAS GRANTED EVERY REQUEST BY A NON-MEMBER TO PRESENT ITS VIEWS TO THE COMMITTEE. COLOMBIA ADDRESSED THE LEGAL SUBCOMMITTEE IN NEW YORK IN THE SPRING OF 1977 AND THE PLENARY OUTER SPACE COMMITTEE IN JUNE 1977. IN ADDITION, REPRESENTATIVES OF COLOMBIA ATTENDED AS MANY OF THE OTHER MEETINGS OF THESE BODIES AS THEY WISHED. WE ARE CONFIDENT THAT SIMILAR OPPORTUNITIES WILL BE AVAILABLE IN THE FUTURE.

THE UNITED STATES WOULD BE WILLING TO ASK THE OUTER SPACE COMMITTEE TO CONSIDER THE QUESTION OF ITS MEMBERSHIP AT ITS 1978 SESSION AND REPORT ITS CONCLUSIONS TO THE 33RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN THE FALL OF 1978.

THE UNITED STATES REQUESTS THAT THESE VIEWS BE BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF THE GOVERNMENT OF COLOMBIA. UNQTE.
LEONARD

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: COMMITTEES, SPACE PROGRAMS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 18-Nov-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977USUNN04782
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770428-0631
Format: TEL
From: USUN NEW YORK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19771139/aaaabhgq.tel
Line Count: 85
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 48a03816-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 USUN NEW YORK 4537, 77 USUN NEW YORK 4657
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 520277
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: OUTER SPACE COMMITTEE ENLARGEMENT
TAGS: TSPA, CO, UN
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/48a03816-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009